Testimony
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Before the
Energy & Public Utilities Committee
February 7, 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in **support of Section 5 of SB-807** which eliminates the requirement that municipal water departments prepare and submit a detailed annual report to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA).

This report, which is generally 75-100 pages long, serves no useful purpose and duplicates information that is already submitted to the state in various other reports. The reporting requirement is burdensome because it requires data to be furnished by a certain date and in a format that conflicts with standards municipal accounting practices. It also requires data and information to be provided that is simply irrelevant to a municipal water department. For example, the report requests information on capital stock and regulatory expenses associated with rate cases which are not applicable to municipal water departments. Other financial information required to be provided, such as balance sheets and distribution of salaries and wages, is unnecessary because PURA does not regulate municipal water rates. This ties up staff and resources which could be better allocated to other projects.

We therefore urge you to support Section 5 of this bill, which will eliminate this unnecessary reporting burden.